

HOUSE BILL 2228

By Ramsey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 53
and Title 63, relative to prescription requirements.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 53-11-308, is amended by adding
the following new subsection:

(1) Notwithstanding another law, and except as otherwise provided in
subdivision () (3), when prescribing an opioid to a patient, a healthcare prescriber shall
offer a prescription for naloxone hydrochloride, or another drug approved by the United
States food and drug administration for the complete or partial reversal of an opioid
overdose event, to the patient when one (1) or more of the following conditions are
present in accordance with the federal centers for disease control and prevention opioid
prescribing guidelines setting forth treatment of a known or suspected opioid overdose:

(A) The prescription dosage for the patient is fifty (50) or more morphine
milligram equivalents of an opioid medication per day;

(B) An opioid medication is prescribed concurrently with a prescription for
benzodiazepine;

(C) The patient presents with an increased risk for overdose, including a
history of overdose, a history of substance use disorder, or being at risk for
returning to a high dose of opioid medication to which the patient is no longer
tolerant; or

(D) The patient is at high risk of witnessing an opioid overdose event
because the individual resides or spends time with an individual who is
prescribed an opioid, misuses an opioid, or has an opioid use disorder.

(2) Failure by a prescriber to offer a prescription as required by subdivision () (1) may subject the prescriber to administrative sanctions as deemed appropriate by the prescriber's licensing authority by rule.

(3) Subdivision () (1) does not apply to an opioid prescription that is written as part of a patient's palliative care treatment. As used in this subdivision () (3), "palliative care" has the same meaning as defined in § 63-1-164.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to opioid prescriptions issued on or after that date.